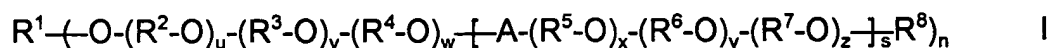


**COPY OF ALL CLAIMS**

1. (amended) A process for preparing graft copolymers of polyvinyl esters by polymerization of

- a) at least one vinyl ester of aliphatic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-carboxylic acids in the presence of
- b) polyethers which are solid at room temperature and have the general formula I



in which the variables have the following meaning, independently of one another:

R<sup>1</sup> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>9</sup>-C(=O)-, R<sup>9</sup>-NH-C(=O)-, polyalcohol residue;

R<sup>8</sup> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>9</sup>-C(=O)-, R<sup>9</sup>-NH-C(=O)-;

R<sup>2</sup> to R<sup>7</sup> -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH(CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>)-,  
-CH<sub>2</sub>-CHOR<sup>10</sup>-CH<sub>2</sub>-;

R<sup>9</sup> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl;

R<sup>10</sup> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>9</sup>-C(=O)-;

A -C(=O)-O-, -C(=O)-B-C(=O)-O-, -C(=O)-NH-B-NH-C(=O)-O-;

B -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>-, arylene, optionally substituted;

n 1 to 8;

s 0 to 500;

t 1 to 12;

u 1 to 5000;

v 0 to 5000;

w 0 to 5000;

x 1 to 5000;

y 0 to 5000;

z 0 to 5000.

c) and, where appropriate, at least one other monomer

using a free-radical initiator system, wherein liquid polyalkylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator system.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solution of the free-radical initiator system is added continuously throughout the polymerization reaction time.

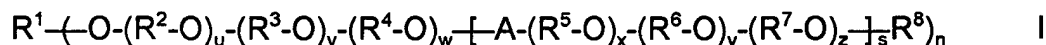
3. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein liquid polyethylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator at room temperature.

6. A cosmetic, dermatological, hygienic or pharmaceutical dosage form comprising at least one of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in claim 1 in addition to conventional excipients.

7. (amended) Graft copolymers of polyvinyl esters obtainable by polymerization of

a) at least one vinyl ester of aliphatic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-carboxylic acids in the presence of

b) polyethers which are solid at room temperature and have the general formula I



in which the variables have the following meaning, independently of one another:

$R^1$  hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{24}$ -alkyl,  $R^9-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^9-NH-C(=O)-$ , polyalcohol residue;

$R^8$  hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{24}$ -alkyl,  $R^9-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^9-NH-C(=O)-$ ;

$R^2$  to  $R^7$   $-(CH_2)_2-$ ,  $-(CH_2)_3-$ ,  $-(CH_2)_4-$ ,  $-CH_2-CH(CH_3)-$ ,  $-CH_2-CH(CH_2-CH_3)-$ ,  
 $-CH_2-CHOR^{10}-CH_2-$ ;

$R^9$   $C_1-C_{24}$ -alkyl;

$R^{10}$  hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{24}$ -alkyl,  $R^9-C(=O)-$ ;

A  $-C(=O)-O-$ ,  $-C(=O)-B-C(=O)-O-$ ,  $-C(=O)-NH-B-NH-C(=O)-O-$ ;

B  $-(CH_2)_t-$ , arylene, optionally substituted;

n 1 to 8;

s 0 to 500;

t 1 to 12;

u 1 to 5000;

v 0 to 5000;

w 0 to 5000;

x 1 to 5000;

y 0 to 5000;

z 0 to 5000

c) and, where appropriate, at least one other monomer

using a free-radical initiator system, wherein liquid polyalkylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator system.

8. (new) Coating agents, binders or film-forming excipients for pharmaceutical dosage forms comprising a polymer produced by the process of claim 1.

9. (new) Cosmetic, hygienic or dermatological preparations containing a polymer produced by the process of claim 1.